

an anti-reflection layer made of a circular polarizer and bonded to a lower surface of said plate-like member through said adhesive layer,

wherein said light output means formed in said upper surface of said plate-like member is constituted by a plurality of prismatic structures each shaped like a triangle in section and each having an optical path changing face inclined at an inclination angle in a range of from 35 to 48 degrees with respect to a reference plane of said lower surface of said plate-like member.

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2. (Amended) A light pipe according to claim 1, wherein said anti-reflection layer made of a circular polarizer includes a quarter-wave plate, and a linear polarizer.

3. (Amended) A light pipe according to claim 2, wherein said anti-reflection layer made of a circular polarizer further includes a half-wave plate.

4. (Amended) A light pipe according to claim 3, wherein a maximum intensity of light exited from said lower surface of said plate-like member in a plane perpendicular to reference planes of both said lower surface and said incidence side surface of said plate-like member is inclined at an angle of not larger than 30 degrees with respect to a normal to said reference plane of said lower surface of said plate-like member.

6. (Amended) A light pipe comprising:

a plate-like member including light output means formed in an upper surface of said plate-like member so that light incident on an incidence side surface of said plate-like member is exited from a lower surface of said plate-like member through said light output means;

an adhesive layer having a refractive index lower than that of said plate-like member; and

an anti-reflection layer made of a circular polarizer and bonded to a lower surface of said plate-like member through said adhesive layer;

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wherein said light output means formed in said upper surface of said plate-like member is formed by a repetitive structure of prismatic structures each having an optical path changing face and a long side face and arranged at intervals of a pitch of from 50 μm to 1.5 mm; each of said optical path changing faces is formed of a slope inclined downward from said incidence side surface to a counter end surface opposite thereto at an inclination angle in a range of from 35 to 48 degrees with respect to a reference plane of said lower surface of said plate-like member; each of said long side faces is made of a slope inclined at an angle in a range of from 0 to 10 degrees with respect to said reference plane; a difference between inclination angles of any two long side faces is not larger than 5 degrees over a surface of said plate-like member; a difference between said inclination angles of adjacent ones of said long side faces is not larger than 1 degree; and a projected area of said long side faces on said reference plane is not smaller than 5 times as large as that of said optical path changing faces on said reference plane.

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7. (Amended) A light pipe according to claim 5, wherein ridgelines defining edges of said optical path changing faces are inclined within a range of ± 30 degrees with respect to a reference plane of said incidence side surface.

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13. (Amended) A light pipe comprising:
a plate-like member including light output means formed in an upper surface of said plate-like member so that light incident on an incidence side surface of said plate-like member is exited from a lower surface of said plate-like member through said light output means;
an adhesive layer having a refractive index lower than that of said plate-like member; and
a light-diffusing layer including fine prismatic structures formed in a surface thereof and bonded to said lower surface of said plate-like member through said adhesive layer.

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17. (Amended) A light pipe according to claim 13, wherein said light output means formed in said upper surface of said plate-like member is constituted by a plurality of sectionally triangular prismatic structures having optical path changing faces each inclined at an inclination angle in a range of from 35 to 48 degrees with respect to a reference plane of said lower surface.

18. (Amended) A light pipe according to claim 13, wherein said light output means formed in said upper surface of said plate-like member is formed by a repetitive structure of prismatic structures arranged at intervals of a pitch of from 50 μm to 1.5 mm and each having an optical path changing face and a long side face; each of said optical path changing faces is

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constituted by a slope inclined downward from said incidence side surface side to a counter end side at an inclination angle in a range of from 35 to 48 degrees with respect to a reference plane of said lower surface so that a projected width of each of said slopes on said reference plane is not larger than 40 μm ; and each of said long side faces is constituted by a slope inclined at an inclination angle in a range of from 0 to 10 degrees with respect to said reference plane so that an angle difference between any two long side faces over a surface of said plate-like member is not larger than 5 degrees, so that a difference between inclination angles of adjacent ones of said long side faces is not larger than 1 degree and so that a projected area of said long side faces on said reference plane is not smaller than 5 times as large as a projected area of said optical path changing faces on said reference plane.

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19. (Amended) A light pipe according to claim 17, wherein ridgelines defining edges of said optical path changing faces are in a range of ± 30 degrees with respect to a reference plane of said incidence side surface.
